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## Cock-a-hoop for Easter fun

■ CHILDREN in Banbury took part in basketball coaching sessions last week during their Easter holidays. They were joined by American coach Richard Moses to learn new tricks and skills at the North Oxfordshire Academy **SEE PAGE 8**

Patients rank health centre as one of the best in the county

# SURGERIES IN GOOD SHAPE

A BANBURY GP surgery has been named one of the best performing in the county after a recent NHS patient experience survey.

Banbury Health Centre in Bridge Street was ranked eighth in Oxfordshire with a 97 per cent rating in this year's GP Patient Survey.

Also near the top of the pile was Cropredy Surgery, in Cropredy, which was rated 98 per cent and Bloxham Surgery in Bloxham which had 97 per cent.

The survey asked people about a variety of issues including waiting times, how easy it is to make an appointment, GP and nursing quality, opening times and overall experience.

Andrew Elphick, speaking on behalf of Banbury Health Centre, said: "We are naturally pleased that our patients have had a positive overall experience with us.

"We would attribute this result to the hard work and dedication of the whole of the Banbury Health Centre team."

Cropredy Surgery practice manager Lynne Jones said the staff were delighted at the survey's result, and revealed patients had even brought in thank you cards to give to their GP.

The family-run surgery has two GPs and looks after about 3,500 patients.

**Kieran Davey**  
[kdavey@nqo.com](mailto:kdavey@nqo.com)

Mrs Jones said: "This survey is a great reflection on the work that the team do here.

"We are only a small family-run surgery and the personal touch is something we are very proud of.

"We always make sure we keep the patients at the front of what we do, even though we do face our own pressures as a surgery.

"With new houses being built in the village I am not sure how long we can keep up with demand, and we are looking to expand if we can do so."

West Bar Surgery in Oxford Road only had a 73 per cent rating.

Patients were asked to rate their surgery as very good, fairly good, fairly poor, very poor or neither good nor poor.

In the county a total of 8,890 patients responded to the nationwide survey, about 39 per cent of the 22,903 sent out in the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) region.

Across the county's 79 GP practices, 85 per cent of patients reported an overall experience of good, compared to only five per cent claiming their

experience was poor. Three-quarters of the surgeries, 60 out of 79, were rated above the national average of 85 per cent.

The survey revealed The Leys Health centre in Blackbird Leys, Oxford, was ranked the worst with a third of its 10,800 patients saying they did not have a good experience.

At the other end of the table was the Wychwood Surgery, which has four GPs to see nearly 5,900 patients, with 100 per cent saying they had a good overall experience.

The survey was carried out by Ipsos Mori on behalf of NHS England.

West Bar Surgery did not respond to requests for a comment.

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**Take part in stroll**

**DEDDINGTON:** Those fancying a stroll can join a charity walk in North Oxfordshire this weekend.

The event in Deddington on Sunday from 11am, offers residents the chance to raise money for Oxfordshire Family Mediation. The charity supports children and adults when they are dealing with the fall-out before, during or after separation.

Walkers can take The Hempton Loop, which is five-and-a-half miles or the Clifton Loop, which is six-and-a-half. Fitness fanatics can opt to combine the two which costs £20 per person, £30 per couple or nothing at all for children.

Register at [bit.ly/1LioGyp](http://bit.ly/1LioGyp).

**Rifle use denial**

**OXFORD:** A 56-year-old man has been denied using an air rifle to intimidate another.

Kevin Payne appeared at Oxford Crown Court on Friday when he denied possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear or violence on January 8.

Payne, of Howard Road, Banbury, also denied assault by beating on the same date.

He was released on bail and is due to appear before the same court for a two-day trial during the fortnight commencing July 4.

**Dancing sessions**

**BANBURY:** The Mill Arts Centre is running social Latin American and ballroom dance classes aimed at people over 50.

The sessions, on Fridays at 11am, are open to dancers of all abilities. They cost £3. For more information call 01295 221803.



Dog owner Carol Hazard at a recent RSPCA event promoting responsible dog ownership

**Reminder about dog microchips**

A VETS' practice in Banbury is calling on local dog owners to make sure they get their pet microchipped in the wake of new legislation.

From yesterday the new Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015 means owners could be fined £500 if their pet has not had the procedure.

Charities such as the RSPCA have been scrambling to get the word out in recent weeks offering owners the chance to get their dog chipped for free.

A final drop-in session is being held at the Co-op store in Queensway on Saturday from 10am to 1pm.

Hawthorne Lodge Vets in West Bar is also encouraging owners who cannot make it at the weekend to get the procedure done for just £9.95.

Veterinary nurse Amanda Tudhope said: "We helped the Dogs Trust last year and were the only vet locally that ran free microchipping for the whole year."

Ms Tudhope added: "Whenever we microchip a pet we always suggest coming back a week or two later so that we can scan them, to make sure the microchip is there and it's working."

"We are happy to see any dog that has been microchipped free of charge."

For details call 01295 259446.

# Housing plans could see jobs being created

**Deddington Grange development would see 86 homes built**

**Kieran Davey**  
[kdavey@nqo.com](mailto:kdavey@nqo.com)

MORE than 170 jobs could be created in Deddington if a new 86-home building project goes ahead.

Homebuilders David Wilson Homes are planning the new Deddington Grange development on land next to Banbury Road, having first applied for planning permission back in 2013.

Of the 86 homes, about a third would be classed as affordable homes.

David Wilson Homes senior sales manager Steve Barton said: "The new sites we are opening means there will be more choice for local buyers. This is good news for the local economy as in addition to the local construction jobs people who move into the new housing will also spend their wages locally."

"This means a significant boost for local retailers as well."

Some of the homes are designed to help first-time buyers get on to the property ladder, through the Government's money-saving schemes.

Mr Barton said: "Over the last year we have also seen the hugely successful continuation of the Help to Buy scheme. This means first-time buyers and those moving up the housing ladder can get moving with just a five per cent deposit, a 20 per cent equity loan and a 75 per cent mortgage."

The planned development has previously come under fire from residents in Deddington who are concerned the village will become too congested.

The initial application for 85 homes was rejected by Cherwell District Council's planning committee three years ago, but was overturned by the government's Planning Inspectorate.

Inspector Paul Crysell said at the time that he reversed the decision because the district council had not yet finalised a Local Plan detailing where major housing estates would go.

The homebuilder is also building 65 two, three, four and five-bedroom homes at Adderbury Fields in Adderbury.

In September, David Wilson Homes announced plans to invest more than £400,000 in the community including in education, an outdoors sport facilities and public transport.

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# Fundraising dancer's once-in-a-lifetime trip

'Amazing' 80-day journey saw tango fan heading across the globe from Oxford to Argentina via France, Switzerland, Spain, Gibraltar and Morocco on a pilgrimage to the dance's birthplace in support of Parkinson's UK's hard work

Kieran Davey  
kdavey@nqo.com

A DANCER who tangoed his way from Banbury to Buenos Aires to raise money for charity has spoken about his "amazing" once-in-a-lifetime journey.

Aseem Bandali set off from the UK in December for an 80-day pilgrimage to the birthplace of tango in South America.

The former social worker, who has been practising Argentinian tango for nearly four years, started off in Oxford and travelled through France, Switzerland, Spain, Gibraltar and Morocco before reaching Argentina.

On his way he took part in a series of dance events, or "milongas", and collected more than £1,800 for charity Parkinson's UK.

The 42-year-old, who is a member of the Tango Aurora Oxford group based in Botley and Jericho, said: "The whole trip was amazing.

"I met some fascinating people and there were some great stories of kindness as well.

"It was great to catch up with people I know and make new friends at the same time.

"Paris was very interesting too because it was only a month after the bombings. I'd been there before but it was a lot quieter than I remembered."

Mr Bandali took up dancing after going to taster sessions with a former girlfriend when living in London, and then carried on when he moved to Oxfordshire.

His journey was inspired by his friend and fellow dancer Anthony Brown, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2008.

On his way, Mr Bandali also stopped off to volunteer for various projects in return for a meal and a bed.

Most unusually he spent time house-sitting for a person near Madrid where he looked after horses, goats and chickens.

The Banbury resident said: "I tried



Aseem Bandali has completed his tango tour of the world

riding a horse bare back and managed to fall off it."

But he nearly became stuck on Christmas Day, when his car broke down just outside Valencia.

He said: "I had just pulled onto the motorway and the car just stopped.

"I had to call the recovery people to come and rescue me, it wasn't too great."

After his car broke down, Mr Bandali missed his passenger ship due to take him from Morocco to Argentina, so instead caught a plane.

He said: "In Buenos Aires it was

about 40 degrees, which is about as hot as it can get.

"By the time I got to Argentina I was dancing every day.

"Buenos Aires is the capital of tango as well, you'd get people going out late in the afternoon and then going to watch tango late at night."

The dancer left Argentina to come back home on February 15.

On April 23 he will be helping to organise a charity milonga at the Botley Women's Institute in North Hinksey, starting at 2pm. The event will also raise money for Parkinson's UK.

## Victim of stabbing leaves hospital

**BANBURY:** A 26-year-old man who was stabbed in North Bar Street on Friday morning has left hospital.

Thames Valley Police said they were called at about 8.30am to the incident after the man suffered a serious injury.

He was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford for treatment.

Thames Valley Police spokeswoman Connie Primmer said the victim was now recovering at home.

A 24-year-old woman arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm with intent has been bailed until May 20. Anyone with any information should call 101.

## Masterplan deadline

**BANBURY:** Residents have two weeks left to have their say on a new "masterplan" for the town.

The plan aims to map out future building developments in Banbury to build the area's economy, reduce congestion coming into and out of the town, and create a more attractive town centre.

A public consultation on the draft masterplan is open until April 13.

To have your say on the plans go to [cherwell.gov.uk/policypublicconsultation](http://cherwell.gov.uk/policypublicconsultation).

## Councillor's tributes

**BANBURY:** Tributes will be paid to former town councillor Ann Bonner at the annual Banbury Town Mayor's Variety Show on April 23.

The event will raise money for Katharine House Hospice and will include an evening of comedy, dance and music.

The former Banbury mayor passed away at the age of 62 last August after, staying at the hospice for a short time.

Tickets costing £8 can be purchased from Banbury Town Hall.

## 'Road plan will cost our village identity'

NEARLY 500 residents in Bodicote have called for plans for a new spine road through their village to be scrapped.

People living in the village south of Banbury are complaining that road and housing developments mean their village is losing its identity.

It comes after a planning application was submitted to the district council which would mean a new main road is built through Bodicote.

The road would begin at the north entrance to the village, cut across White Post Road opposite Bishop Loveday School, through the fields between Salt Way and Banbury Cricket Club, before reaching to Bloxham Road.

But a letter calling for the plan to be rejected has been sent to Cherwell District Council.

It has been drafted by members of the Bodicote At



Objectors, back from left, Ron Glynn and Keith Humphries; front, Russell, Joyce Washburn, Patricia Cowan and Susan Steele at White Post Road

Risk campaign group, set up for residents to be able to express their concerns about new developments in the village.

The letter said: "The current entrance to Bodicote sets a clear definition between

village and town. However, the entrance and exit of the proposed spine road confuses this existing boundary and pushes the settlement line further into the parish.

"Bodicote has already lost a large section of parish land at the hands of development built for the benefit of Banbury, like Longford Park."

The letter went on to say that although the road will offer parking for 34 vehicles, the spaces would be difficult to police, meaning that they could be used solely by staff and council employees.

A total of 370 objections – signed by 485 people – have also been submitted by residents.

The road is also part of the village's infrastructure plan which is included in the new Banbury Masterplan, a draft of which has been produced by Cherwell District Council and

is currently available for public consultation.

The objections will now be sent to district council principal planning officer Matthew Parry, before the application is decided on by the council.

Parish council chairman Ron Glynn previously said that the village had become a "dumping ground" for new homes.

Bodicote has a population of 2,500, and the district council has said that because the development is outside the village's boundaries the plans can go ahead.

Developers Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire is also building up to 1,070 homes on the new Longford Park, off Oxford Road.

Facilities planned for residents include a new primary school, a doctor's surgery, a convenience store and three retail units.



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## Extra armed police help protect public from threat of terror

MORE armed police will help protect the public from terrorism, according to senior officers.

Thames Valley Police has welcomed the Government's plans to invest £143m into improving fire arms capability, including having more armed officers to tackle terror threats. The Home Office has provided the cash to train about 1,000 extra firearms officers nationwide to protect the public from terrorism.

Temporary Assistant Chief Constable Joint Operations for Hampshire Constabulary and TVP, Scott Chilton, welcomed the cash injection.

He said: "We have been developing plans for many months, supported by our Police and Crime Commissioners. This increase in funding is welcome as it will put us in an even stronger position to respond quickly and effectively to protect the public. We have been working with regional partners across the South East for some time to make sure that, when recruited and trained, these

resources will be deployed to best effect."

He added more details of the plans will be revealed in the coming weeks.

It is not known how many of the 1,000 new firearms officers will be trained in Oxfordshire or the Thames Valley.

The latest available figures show Thames Valley Police has 59 armed response vehicle officers, 20 specialist firearm officers, 15 firearms instructors and 87 protection group officers – firearms trained officers responsible for providing protection for special visiting parties.

The cash is on top of that already pledged by individual chief constables to increase the number of armed officers under their command.

About 1,000 officers across the country will be trained and equipped as a result of the government grant, which will be spread over five years, with another 500 trained using cash from police forces' own budgets.

The new officers are expected to be trained by April 2018.

## It's been a winter warmer for smaller birds

THIS year's mild winter has resulted in a surge in the number of small birds in our back gardens.

Nearly 7,000 birdwatchers across Oxfordshire took part in this year's RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Like last year, the most common bird spotted in the county was the house sparrow, with 3.93 recorded on average per person per hour, up from 3.8 last year.

The blue tit and woodpigeon came in second and third, with a respective average of 2.83 and 2.39 seen per hour.

But the RSPB, which runs the birdwatch, said a warmer winter had benefitted many smaller garden birds such as long-tailed tits.

Dr Daniel Hayhow, conservation scientist for the charity, said: "The increase in long-tailed tit sightings, along with other smaller garden birds, just goes to show that in the absence of very cold weather these species can survive the winter months in much greater numbers."

"The warmer temperatures have made it easier to find food, like insects, which in previous colder winters would have been harder to come by because of frosts and snow."

As part of the birdwatch, people grabbed their binoculars to record how birds and other wildlife are faring in gardens across the nation.

Participants counted the number of birds in their garden or local park, sending back their observations via a form or through an online "bird counter".



Main picture, robin; above, blue tit; left, house sparrow

## Bid to plug £13m hole in care plan

Cash crisis looms at hospital as group warns it is unable balance the books

Joe Gammie  
jgammie@nqo.com

HEALTH services at Banbury's Horton Hospital could face a financial crisis as the organisation that buys care has admitted it cannot yet balance its books for the coming year.

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's (OCCG) stark warning last Wednesday was that it would either have to pay less or do less in the next 12 months as it struggles to plug a £13m black hole.

With less cash coming from central government it needs to axe its spending by £22.4m, but it has only identified £9.1m of savings so far.

OCCG's chief executive David Smith told the board: "Discussions come back to there being more to do with the money than we are able to. It's that combination; it's either we do less or we pay less." The 11-strong OCCG board, which consists of five county doctors among its NHS professionals, is responsible for agreeing how to fund healthcare across the county including hospital care, community hospitals, end of life care, mental health services and ambulances.



OCCG chairman David Smith

It also contracts out services to organisations such as Oxford University Hospitals, which uses the cash to hire staff, pay for equipment and provide its services.

But because the savings have not been identified, it could mean places such as the Horton, John Radcliffe, Churchill hospital, the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Oxford Health – which runs mental health services and community hospitals – have less cash. Direct cuts to services have not been ruled in or out but the board pointed out there is a growing pressure for its services.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire's executive director Carol Moore said by not highlighting where the axe will fall, OCCG risked causing concern in patients and the public. She added: "The CCG says it is working to identify where those savings can be made, without indicating whether it is looking at greater efficiencies or changes to services, which misses an opportunity to allay public concern."

OCCG also pays for the county's NHS 111 non-emergency helpline, autism diagnosis centres, and physiotherapy services and has secured an agreement with NHS England to take on responsibility for primary care – such as GPs – with a £90m budget.

The financial black hole emerged on the final day of the £2m pilot scheme to tackle the county's bed-blocking crisis.

The plan was to reduce the number of delayed transfers of care – patients medically fit to leave hospital being stranded in beds because they have nowhere to go – down to 30.

Despite moving more than 290 patients since the scheme launched in November, the total number of patients stuck in hospital beds had only fallen by 28, from 159 to 131 by March 24.

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# Land speed record bid inspires student project

Challenge involved programming robot to travel round a course and use hands to remove rocket from model car

**Kieran Davey**  
kdavey@nqo.com

STUDENTS at Banbury and Bicester College have been taking on a challenge inspired by the next world land speed record attempt.

Level 3 IT students put their coding skills to the test as they worked in teams to programme a small robot around a course and use its grab hands to remove a rocket from the rear of a model car.

They were helped out by the education team at Bloodhound Super Sonic Car, which this summer will be travelling to South Africa to practise its own world record attempt.

Designed and constructed in the UK, Bloodhound SSC is a high-technology project set up specifically to break the 1,000mph barrier.

Student Jamie Nicol, 19, said: "We have done this sort of scratch coding before, but it is good to apply it to a practical project.

"It gives you a better understanding of how much programming goes into projects and the problem solving involved.

"Things don't just work straight away, you have to keep going back and refining the code and testing the impact on what you want the robot to do."

Gerry Heather, from the Bloodhound education team, said: "One of the key objectives of the Bloodhound project is to inspire the next generation about science, technology, engineering and maths.

"Projects such as this help students to understand the importance of coding and the role that robots can play in real life scenarios.

"Working with Level 3 college students is important, as these young people will soon be coming into the industry.

"Robotics, telemetry and programming is so important to the future of the IT and communications industry and we hope to show young people how these skills are applicable to a range of roles."

During their trip to South Africa the



The Bloodhound Supersonic Car; right from left, Mike Ford from Bloodhound Education, IT students Jamie Nicol and Trisha Oruga and Gerry Heather, also from Bloodhound Education

team will attempt a speed of 800mph in the desert, and based on its success will then schedule a 1,000mph record attempt.

The record is currently held by British pilot Andy Green who travelled at a speed of 763mph in the Nevada desert in 1997.

The education team has previously run roadshows for local schools from the Banbury and Bicester campuses.



## Call for volunteers

**OXON:** The county-wide branch of the RSPCA has issued an appeal for volunteers as it said 2016 would be the "busiest year we have ever had".

Alongside dog microchipping and 'CLAWS' roadshows, the animal charity needs help organising and running shows, fun days and walks as well as fundraising.

People interested in animals, or who have a specialist skill or interest of any kind that could be helpful, are encouraged to get in contact if they have a few hours a week to spare. Email [getinvolved@rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:getinvolved@rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk) for details or to get involved.

## New warden role

**HOOK NORTON:** The parish council is looking for a new warden to help keep the village clean and tidy.

Duties would also include inspecting the village's playground, reporting any problems to councils and contractors, and managing the Memorial Hall.

It may be possible to job share the roles of hall caretaker and parish warden. If you are interested email [parishwarden@hook-norton.org.uk](mailto:parishwarden@hook-norton.org.uk).

## Thieves take items

**N OXON:** Burglars ransacked a garage near Banbury overnight between March 18 and 19.

The thieves entered the building in Main Street, Duns Tew, stealing several power tools, a pressure washer and two bikes.

If you have any information, contact the police on 101 and quote occurrence number: 43160078437.

## Flats plan submitted

**BANBURY:** An application to turn a house into new three flats in West Street has been submitted.

Planning agent Archtech 43 has put together plans for the new one-bedroom flats.

A decision is due by May 27.

To comment go to [cherwell.gov.uk](http://cherwell.gov.uk).

## Pupils perform well

**OXON:** Great Tew Primary School has been ranked among the top 20 in the country for children's performance.

The school was ranked fourth for the percentage of pupils who achieved level five or above in reading, writing and maths by the end of Year Six.

The statistics in a report by think tank CentreForum showed 81.8 per cent of pupils at Great Tew Primary School hit the level five target.

## Scheme to turn block into council housing

AN OFFICE block that has stood in Banbury since the 1980s is to be turned into council housing after being left empty for years.

Town Centre House, in Southam Road, was bought by property investors Brickmort last year so it could be converted into housing.

After securing a grant worth more than £1m from the Homes and Community Agency, Cherwell District Council has announced plans to build 39 new one- and two-bedroom flats that will be allocated through the council's housing register.

The district council's lead member for housing John Donaldson said: "We are facing challenging times in ensuring that residents can access the housing they

need and can afford.

"If people need a bit of support to get back into work, this kind of accommodation can make a huge difference.

"The council is always keen to work in partnership with the private and voluntary sectors to make sure that this kind of provision is available.

"This scheme will help meet that need and support younger people with a home that will be a secure base from which they can find their feet and take up employment and training opportunities."

Anyone wishing to be considered for the new homes must sign on to the council's housing register.

More information is available at [cherwell.gov.uk](http://cherwell.gov.uk).

## Support for changes to discharge process

CHANGES to the way patients are discharged from hospital have been welcomed by the county's patient watchdog.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire had reported on the discharge process in September and the county's hospitals have now said they will introduce a number of improvements.

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – which runs the John Radcliffe, Churchill, Horton General and Nuffield Orthopaedic hospitals – and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust – which runs the county's community hospitals – said each hospital would identify a nurse who patients could speak to about discharge enquiries.

The patient discharge summary is to be redesigned and all current discharge posters and leaflets will be

reviewed with the aim of creating a new comprehensive leaflet.

This would include useful information and a section with personalised discharge information.

Each patient will also have a discharge plan including the named nurse and contact numbers.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire executive director Carol Moore said: "We are pleased that the providers have accepted our recommendations concerning clearer communication with patients, and improving the pharmacy processes.

"We hope that these changes, along with others that the trusts are making, will lead to a smoother, simpler discharge for Oxfordshire patients."

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## Plea for help

**BANBURY:** A CCTV image has been released of two women police want to speak to in connection with the theft of a purse in WH Smiths at Castle Quay shopping centre.

Between about 1.30pm and 2pm on Thursday, January 21, the victim was shopping in the store when two offenders stole her purse from inside her handbag.

PC Paul Devlin, from Banbury police station, said: "We are keen to talk to the two women in the CCTV images as we believe they may have information which could help us with this investigation."

"We are also appealing to anyone who may remember having seen any suspicious behaviour while shopping in the centre that day to please get in contact via the Thames Valley Police Enquiry Centre on 101."

## Paths clean

**BLOXHAM:** Parish councillors have thanked a mystery resident who spent time clearing footpaths near the Goggs.

Residents were surprised last week to find the footpaths, which had long been left untidy, had suddenly been transformed.

A council spokesperson said: "This has greatly improved the condition of the footpaths and is very much appreciated by all users."



# Migrant killed in collision

18-year-old Iraqi found dead on road by police was living in refugee camp in France

**Kieran Davey**  
kdavey@nqo.com

A MAN who died after being involved in a collision with a lorry in Banbury is believed to be a refugee who travelled to the UK from France.

The victim, named by charity Help Refugees as 18-year-old Mohammed Hussain, was found dead by police in Beaumont Road in the early hours of Friday.

According to the aid charity, he was from the Iraqi region of Kurdistan and had been living in a refugee camp in Dunkirk, northern France, for six months.

Thames Valley Police said the man died after a crash involving a lorry at about 4.30am.

The road was closed for about five hours while police investigated the incident.

Banbury town councillor Surinder Dhesi paid tribute to the victim.

She said: "It is a very sad that someone has lost their life in this tragic accident. My deepest condolences to the young person's family for their sad loss."

"Beaumont Road leading on to Southam Road is very busy and we need to make sure we gather all the information regarding the accident to ascertain what to do next to prevent it from happening again."



Dunkirk refugee camp; right, Mohammed Hussain

Cherwell district councillor Matt Johnstone added: "I was deeply saddened to hear about the crash this morning."

"My thoughts are with his family and friends at this time."

Help Refugees volunteer Maddie Harris said Mr Hussain had made the journey to be reunited with an uncle living in Manchester, meaning that he could have made an asylum claim to remain in the UK.

She said when surviving family members in Dunkirk – a cousin and an uncle – called his mobile phone on Friday evening it was answered by police officers.

Ms Harris, who works in the Dunkirk camp, said: "The police answered and I was asked to speak to them."

"He was underneath a truck, there was an accident and he was killed. 'He'd been in Dunkirk a long time



–maybe he decided to go on his own. "All Mohammed was trying to do was to find a better life and he felt this was his only option."

According to the charity Mr Hussain's death is thought to be the first on UK soil this year.

Thames Valley Police spokeswoman Connie Primmer said they believed no other vehicles were involved in the incident and that the force has launched a full investigation into the incident.

The driver of the van was later arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving but has now been released without charge.

A force spokesman added that the victim's next of kin has been informed, and it is preparing a file for the coroner.

They refused to identify the victim but according to the charity formal identification was due to take place on Monday.

## Travel



### Strawberry Fields, Penny Lane & the Cavern Club

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Enjoy a nostalgia-packed Beatles Coach Tour of the places where the history of popular music was changed forever, see inside the Cavern Club and journey on the legendary "Ferry 'cross the Mersey".

#### Highlights & inclusions

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- A journey on the "Ferry 'cross the Mersey"
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#### Highlights & inclusions

- Scenic Rhine Valley excursion
- An evening at the Rhine in Flames in Koblenz or Rudesheim dependant on departure
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## Scholarship aid for horticulturist

A TEENAGE horticulturist has been awarded a pair of scholarships worth £2,000 to fund his studies.

Steven Jenkins, from Banbury, was given two grants from the David Colegrave Foundation to pay for a study trip to North America and a new computer to help with his course.

The 19-year-old is currently studying for a Level 2 Diploma work-based horticulture apprenticeship at Pershore College in Worcestershire, while training to be a grower.

Mr Jenkins, who admits having a passion for commercial horticulture, said: "I am totally overwhelmed and grateful for being awarded both the travel bursary and the student scholarship.

"I will benefit greatly by going on the study tour and am very much looking forward to the experience.

"I hope to be able to bring new ideas back to trial.

"A laptop will also help me greatly with my college studies."

He will receive £1,500 to help pay for a tour of USA and Canada to see intensive plant production, retail and research, while an additional £500 student scholarship will go towards the computer.

The David Colegrave Foundation, which was named after a former horticulturalist, has awarded more than £12,500 to nine students this year who are looking to pursue a career in horticulture.

In the past four years more than £46,000 has been given out.

Foundation trustee Stuart Lowen said: "Steven is a particularly promising young man with a genuine interest and determination to develop a career in commercial plant production."



Banbury basketball camp at North Oxfordshire Academy with Richard Moses, right

# Shooting for the stars

Easter holiday camp gives children the opportunity to hone their basketball skills

Kieran Davey  
kdavey@nqo.com

CHILDREN in Banbury were given the chance to become the next Michael Jordan or Kobe Bryant last week.

Although they might not reach the star-studded heights of those American superstars, they had the chance to fine tune their basketball skills during Easter holiday sessions.

The sessions, which were held over a week, were run by US-based coach Richard Moses and took place at the North Oxfordshire Academy.

Speaking after the sessions Mr



Moses said: "The camp was an absolute success. There were lots of happy kids and happy parents too. "All the kids received their own

certificates and awards."

With the help of coaches the children were taught some of basketball's essential skills including

shooting, dribbling and penalties.

More courses are set to be held at the Warriner School in Bloxham, Banbury Academy in Ruskin Road and Space Studio Banbury.

Mr Moses added that he was hoping to use the sessions to drum up interest for the newly-formed Banbury Basketball Club, set up in partnership with the North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership and Cherwell District Council.

This week similar sessions have been held at the Oxford Spire Academy, and on Monday the children were given some expert advice by former NBA centre Priest Lauderdale.

The retired basketballer is one of the tallest players in NBA league history, and stood high above the children at 7ft four inches.

■ For more information on Banbury Basketball Club email [banburbbasketball@gmail.com](mailto:banburbbasketball@gmail.com)

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### Tour highlights

- ✓ Seven nights' bed and breakfast accommodation at the Hotel Modena, Malcesine - a range of 21 hotels in four resorts are available at a supplement
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# Making a midnight special

**MIDNIGHT SPECIAL (12A, 112 mins)**  
Sci-Fi/Thriller/Romance/Action.  
Michael Shannon, Joel Edgerton,  
Kirsten Dunst, Jaeden Lieberher,  
Adam Driver, Bill Camp, Scott  
Haze, Sam Shepard, David Jensen.  
Director: Jeff Nichols.

THE world as we perceive it is a grand illusion in the impressive sci-fi thriller, *Midnight Special*.

Written and directed by Jeff Nichols, who deservedly won plaudits for the 2013 drama *Mud*, this elegantly constructed portrait of a father-son relationship owes a sizeable debt to Steven Spielberg.

*Close Encounters Of The E.T. Kind* would be a fitting alternative title for Nichols' enigmatic picture, which begs tantalising questions about our place in a vast, unexplored universe.

*Midnight Special* plays cat-and-mouse with our frayed nerves.

Nichols sustains tension with aplomb and his lean script eschews mawkish sentimentality, even when parents face the prospect of heartbreaking sacrifice for the ones they love.

Shannon, who has appeared in all of Nichols' films, is tightly wound as a father on a mission, but he skilfully reveals chinks of anguish and paternal pride in his character's armour.

Scenes between the Kentucky-born leading man and young co-star Lieberher are spellbinding, especially when the little boy serenely tells his father not to worry about him and Roy responds proudly, "I'll always worry about you Alton, that's the deal."

We certainly don't need to worry about Nichols' film.

**THE HUNTSMAN: WINTER'S WAR (12A, 117 mins)** Fantasy/Action/Adventure/Romance. Charlize Theron, Emily Blunt, Chris Hemsworth, Jessica Chastain, Nick Frost, Rob Brydon, Sheridan Smith, Alexandra Roach, Colin Morgan.

Director: Cedric Nicolas-Troyan. MIRROR, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?

Alas, not Cedric Nicolas-Troyan's functional prequel-cum-sequel to the 2012 fantasy *Snow White And The Huntsman*, which promises a yarn "that comes long before happily ever after".

*The Huntsman: Winter's War* boasts jaw-dropping costumes, sets and production design, plus special effects-laden action sequences awash with rampaging goblins and a shape-shifting arch-villainess.

However, all of the slick, digitally rendered beauty cannot disguise uneven performances and a plodding script by Evan Spiliotopoulos and Craig Mazin, which cynically melds Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen* and the Brothers Grimm to woo audiences, who hanker for a live-action version of *Frozen*.

Kristen Stewart is noticeably absent as Snow White, who appears fleetingly in flashback, but Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron reprise their roles as swaggering hero and scheming megalomaniac, on a collision course with destiny.

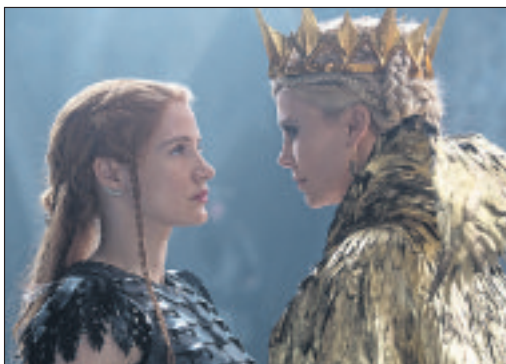
If risible regional accents were a crime punishable under UK law, Oscar-nominated actress Jessica Chastain would be sentenced to life without parole.

Her gung-ho attempts at a Scottish burr catalyse several moments of unintentional hilarity when her acrobatic warrior isn't somersaulting through breathlessly orchestrated fight sequences.

Scheming Queen Ravenna (Theron) rules over her realm in the south with a steely glare, aided by the shape-shifting magic mirror.

Her kind-hearted younger sister, Freya (Emily Blunt), falls madly in love with the Duke of Blackwood (Colin Morgan), who is promised to another, and falls pregnant with his child.

Shortly after the birth of a baby girl, the Duke torches the infant in its crib, unleashing a



Top left, Charlize Theron and Jessica Chastain in *The Huntsman: Winter's War*; left, Chris Hemsworth; above, Jaeden Lieberher and Michael Shannon in *Midnight Special*

wave of grief and fury in Freya that transforms her into The Ice Queen.

Seven years later (taking us beyond the events of the previous film), Snow White has vanquished Ravenna, but the magic mirror continues to exert a malevolent control.

Eric leads a mission to consign the golden adornment to sanctuary, aided by dwarf Nion (Nick Frost) and his half-brother Gryff (Rob Brydon).

Hemsworth glowers with his shirt on, Chastain simpers and Frost and Brydon provide comic relief alongside Sheridan Smith and Alexandra Roach as a pair of potty-mouthed female dwarves.

## ADVERTORIAL

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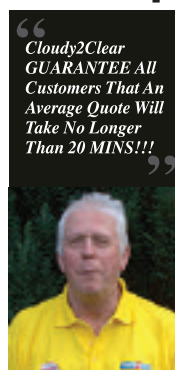
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policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. "Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 10 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.

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& Abingdon areas and manager James Miller agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give James a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



## Cake Bookworm

**The One-in-a-million Boy by Monica Wood is published in hardback by Headline, priced £12.99 (ebook £6.49)**

ONA Vitkus is a 104-year-old Lithuanian immigrant who has, apart from three blazing months back in the summer of 1914 when she ran away to the circus, lived a staid suburban existence. But when an 11-year-old boy scout arrives on her doorstep to fulfill a season of community service, she gets more than she bargains for. When the boy dies suddenly, his father, hapless guitarist Quinn, feels obliged to show up in his place. The two strike up an unlikely friendship which impacts both their lives in unforeseen ways. This is a novel about many things: isolation, community, music, language and friendship. Wood's prose sparkles with lyrical descriptions and sharp observations about people and their motivations. But the over-arching theme running through it all concerns

second chances. Even when you're older than a century, life still has the capacity to surprise you.

**The Ashes Of London by Andrew Taylor is published in hardback by Harper Collins, priced £14.99 (ebook £9.99).**

THE Great Fire of London is raging and James Marwood, the son of a traitor, is charged with solving a series of murders. Picking his way through the burning remnants of one of Europe's great cities, Marwood has to sift through the wrecked lives of those he encounters if he is to solve the complex mystery unfolding in front of him. With the life of his father and that of his own at the whim of a series of masters, including the recently restored King, Marwood must tread carefully. This is a complex weave of history and mystery and the first of a new series from Taylor, who has won a number of awards for historical crime writing and seen his work adapted for TV.

**The Steel Kiss by Jeffrey Deaver is published in hardback and ebook by Hodder & Stoughton, priced £18.99 (ebook £12.99)**

THE king of suspense is back and he's done it again. For his 12th Lincoln Rhyme thriller, Jeffrey Deaver has reunited the grumpy but genius quadriplegic forensic detective – who has since given up working with the NYPD – with his crime-solving team: red-headed partner and detective Amelia Sachs, gifted evidence technician and analyst Mel Cooper and former rookie officer Ron Pulaski as they try to untangle their latest case of a man killed by an escalator, while Sachs pursued a serial killer in a shopping centre. Was it a freak accidental malfunction or was it the work of an evil murderer who knows how fatal machines can be? The team have a race against time as they attempt to discover if there is any connection between the two cases. Another riveting read.

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# Oxfordshire Listings

## Events

### THURSDAY

**Prehistoric Abingdon:** Abbey Chapel, Checker Walk, Abingdon. A talk by Elin Bornemann, collections assistant, Abingdon County Hall Museum. 7.30pm. Suggested contribution £7. 01235 533887.

**Musical in a Day – Exploring Oliver (Easter holiday activity for ages 7-9):** Cornerstone Arts Centre, 25 Station Road, Didcot. Spend the day learning songs from the musical *Oliver!* and put together your own version of the story for the stage. At 4.30pm there will be an informal performance for friends and family. 10.30am. £30. 01235 515144.

**Ramblers walk:** Maidensgrove, Common, Henley on Thames. Seven-mile walk via Crocker End, Bix Bottom, Stonor and Maidensgrove with a pub stop at the end. 10am. 01844 352438.

**Free Car Maintenance Class:** Martin Gilbert Motor Repairs, Radley Road Industrial Estate, Abingdon. Open to men and women, bring in your own car. 7pm. Free. 01235 553055.

**Einstein's Easter Trail (drop-in):** Museum of the History of Science, Broad Street, Oxford. Drop-in suitable for children aged seven upwards. 12pm. Free. 01865 277280.

**Sensing Culture – A Tour for Blind & Partially Sighted Visitors:** Pitt Rivers Museum, Entry via Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, Oxford. Email outreach@ museums.ox.ac.uk to book. 11am. Free. 01865 270927.

**Rhythm and Dance:** Rugrats and Halpints, Beaumont Road, Banbury. 11am. 01295 250060.

### FRIDAY

**Oddballs Rally in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust:** Abingdon Rugby Club, Lambrick Way, Abingdon. A scooter rally for enthusiasts of Vespa and Lambretta scooters, features live music over three days, including Eyecon, Wam, The Fliks, The Corsairs, The Arousers, Blackmax And The Pirates, as well as DJs and traders. It all starts midday Friday and runs through until 4pm on Sunday. Tickets available via PayPal to oddballs.rally@aol.co.uk Advance tickets £15. 07896 828433.

**Alter-Natives:** Braziers Park, Ipsden, Wallingford. Thinking of out of the box solutions for a more sustainable future, reconnecting to days past and rediscovering the power of community. See [https://www.facebook.com/events/953033418120700/?active\\_tab=highlights](https://www.facebook.com/events/953033418120700/?active_tab=highlights). 4pm. £70-220.

**Charlton Spring Festival:** Charlton Day Centre, Charlton Village Road, Wantage. Kids' crafts, live music, refreshments from the Tea Garden Café, local ale, plants for sale and the Easter egg trail. Money raised will go towards the Wantage Market Garden Project. 11am. £1 for adults, children free. 01235 766906.

**Animation – Amazon Adventure (Easter holiday activity for ages 7-13):** Cornerstone Arts Centre, 25 Station Road, Didcot. Ten places available. 10.30am. £35. 01235 515144.

**Family Bushcraft:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Explore the woods, make shelters, learn how to make a fire and use a knife safely. £20 adult, £15 child; booking essential. See [www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson](http://www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson). 10am. £20 adult, £15 child. 01865 407792.

**Bright Sparks Science – Easter Camp:** East Challow Village Hall, 25 Field Gardens, Wantage. Science camp to entertain primary school aged children during the school holidays. 9am-3.30pm. £25 per child. 01865 522775.

**Native Feasts Pop-up Restaurant:**

LASSCO Three Pigeons, London Road, Milton Common. Communal tables, seasonal food and music. Hosted by Michelin-starred chef Chris Godfrey and Greg Jones. Menus will change fortnightly and tickets are available at [www.nativefeasts.co.uk](http://www.nativefeasts.co.uk) 7pm. £35.

**Get Moving!** Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock. Holiday Kids Club. This holiday the theme is Get Moving! Boats, planes and automobiles. For 6-10 year olds. 10am. £20. 01993 810 214.

### SATURDAY

**Oddballs Rally in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust:** Abingdon Rugby Club, Lambrick Way, Abingdon. See Friday.

**Heritage Diesel Day:** Didcot Railway Centre, Entry through Didcot Parkway railway station, Didcot. Take a ride in a 74-year-old Great Western Railway diesel railcar No 22 – the only one in working condition. 10.30am. £10 adult, £8 child. 01235 817200.

**How to Grow Greens:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Join Earth Trust and The Little Salad Company to learn about growing salad leaves. Booking essential. [www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson](http://www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson). 10am. £20. 01865 407792.

**Connecting Communities – Awareness of Mental Health & Isolation:** Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington. With representation from NHS services (including Kidlington Patient Participation Group); voluntary sectors and local groups (Kidlington Art Group). 10am. Free. 01295 221575.

**Inflatable Colon @ Connecting Communities – Awareness of Mental Health & Isolation:** Exeter Hall Kidlington, Oxford Road, Kidlington. Demonstrating how early diagnosis can save lives. A health adviser will explain the risks, signs and symptoms of cancer and how to lead a healthier life. 10am. Free. 01295 221575.

**Table Top and Jumble Sale:** Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary, Old Didcot Road, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell. 11am. Buyers entry 50p. 01491 833938.

**Native Feasts Pop-up Restaurant:** LASSCO Three Pigeons, London Road, Milton Common. Communal tables, seasonal food and music. Hosted by Michelin starred chef Chris Godfrey and Greg Jones. Menus will change fortnightly and tickets are available at [www.nativefeasts.co.uk](http://www.nativefeasts.co.uk) 7pm. £35.

**Spring Jumble Sale:** Nuneham Courtenay Village Hall, Nuneham Courtenay. 1pm. 20p entry. 01865 343459.

**Decoupage Workshop:** The Mix Community Space, 15 Mill Street, Wantage. Create beautiful and practical pots in this Resource Bank workshop. 2pm. Free. 07768 767787.

### SUNDAY

**Oddballs Rally in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust:** Abingdon Rugby Club, Lambrick Way, Abingdon. See Friday.

**National Garden Scheme:** Ashbrook House, Blewbury. The garden where Kenneth Grahame read *Wind in the Willows* to local children and where he took inspiration for his description of the oak doors to Badger's House. Wheelchair access. Dogs on leads. Teas. 2pm. Adult £4, children free.

**Wildlife Photography Walk:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Local photographer Andy Hough will provide top tips on capturing beautiful images of wildlife during this walk around the Earth Trust nature reserve in Little Wittenham. Bring your own camera. Booking essential. [www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson](http://www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson). 8am. £20. 01865 407792.

**Spring Walk for Oxfordshire Family Mediation:** Market Place, Deddington. Two walks – the Hempton Loop is 5.5 miles (2-2.5 hours) and the Clifton Loop is 6.5 miles (2.5-3 hours). To register visit

To get an event of any kind listed here, enter the details into our easy-to-use online database at [thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events](http://thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events)

Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.

<http://bit.ly/1LioGyp>. 11am. £20 pp, £30 per couple, children free. 01865 305130.

**The Abingdon Rowing Club Spring Head race:** Rye Meadow, Abingdon Bridge, A415, Abingdon. Around 400 crews from rowing clubs across the UK race along a 2000m course of the river Thames in a time trial, finishing by the grounds of Abingdon Cricket Club. Entertainment from the Abingdon Morris Dancers and refreshments. 9.30am. Free, parking nominal charge.

### MONDAY

**Sumptuous summer bridal bouquet:** No Two Things, 120 Broadway, Didcot. Make your own special and unique bouquet. Booking required. 7pm. £50. 01235 511550.

### TUESDAY

**Natural History Talk:** Community Centre, New Road, Woodstock. Nick Bowles, 'Butterflies'. Woodstock Natural History Society. Visitors welcome £2. 7.30pm. 01993 812004.

**Ramblers walk:** Oxford, Railway Station, Oxford. Leisurely 4½-mile circular walk by river, canal and city with a pub stop at the end. 10.30am. 01844 213467.

**Prof Richard Fortey – Bringing trilobites back to life:** St Antony's College, Woodstock Road, Oxford. Trilobites were common and varied during a history stretching over hundreds of millions of years. Prof Fortey will show some of the methods he has used to try and understand the variety of species that swarmed in Palaeozoic oceans. 7.45pm. Visitors: £2, members Free.

### WEDNESDAY

**Coronation Street – William the Conqueror and Wallingford 1066:** St Mary's Church, Market Place, Wallingford. Katharine Keats-Rohan returns to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) with a talk describing the strong connections of William the Conqueror with Wallingford. 2016 is the anniversary of the two eleventh-century conquests of England, the Danish Cnut's accession in 1016, and the Norman Conquest of 1066. See [www.twhas.org.uk](http://www.twhas.org.uk). 7.45pm. Visitors £4. 01491 836096.

**Cotswold Decorative & Fine Arts Society Special Interest Day:** Bradwell Village Hall, Bradwell Village, Burford. A lecture on 'The Whole Art of the Book: What Makes a Handbound Book' by Dominic Riley. For more information see [www.cotswoldfdas.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldfdas.org.uk) 10.15am. Suggested donation £8.

**Harwell WI:** Harwell Village Hall, High Street, Harwell. Talk by Linda Bull on Stroke Prevention. 7.30pm. Annual sub but free to visitors. 01235 835649.

**Meet the Red Cross:** Red Cross House, Colwell Drive, Abingdon. Find out how you can help fundraise for the local services that run from Red Cross House. 11am. Free. 01235 552680.

## Music

### THURSDAY

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** The Epstein. *Burn the Branches* album launch. Plus The August List & A Reluctant Arrow. All proceeds to Amnesty International. 7.30pm. £10 (£8 adv.).

**The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton Street, Oxford:** Rodney Quakes, Meredith Baker, Sarah De Warren,

Joseph McCorriston, David Kay. Folk, acoustic & pop. 7pm. £6.

**Joe's Bar & Grill, 260 Banbury Road, Oxford:** Nick Breakspear. Acoustic classics. 8pm. Free.

**The Cock Inn, Combe:** Nick Gill. Classic jazz and ragtime piano/vocals. 8-11pm. Free.

### FRIDAY

**Snooker Club, Thame:** Elvis Tribute Night. In aid of Women v Cancer. Raffle. £10. 7.30pm. 01844 278606.

**Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford:** Durufé Requiem.

Commemorating the 30th anniversary of the death of Maurice Durufé, Oxford Pro Musica Singers perform his ever-popular Requiem and haunting Four Motets. The programme also includes Vienne's Messe Solennelle for choir and organ. £15 / £10 concessions. 7.30pm. 01865 244806.

**The Northcourt, 3 Northcourt Road, Abingdon:** TooREX – The Ultimate Tribute to Marc Bolan & T-Rex. £12 advance, £14 door. 7.30pm. 01235 856076.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Hot Club of Cowtown. Western swing trio. 7pm. £17.50 (adv), £20 (otd).

**The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford:** Ushti Baba, DJ Dan Ofer. Gypsy-folk big band, plus resident DJs playing Latin, Balkan and World beats. 10pm. £7 (adv).

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Slam Cartel, Hell's Gazelles, One Last Run, Closed Circuit. Metal/hard rock. 8pm. £6 (adv), £8 (otd).

**The White House, 38 Abingdon Road, Oxford:** Jeff & Elaine Gillett at Oxford Folk Club. 8.30pm. £4 (£3.)

**Marsh Harrier, 40 Marsh Road, Temple Cowley, Oxford:** Osprey, La Phooka, Beard Of Destiny, Maria Ilett, Ady Davey. Farewell to landlords Sam & Merlin. 7pm. Free.

### SATURDAY

**Braziers Park, Ipsden, Wallingford:** Gig in the Barn. The Curious Sounds, OmniVibes, Raymond Burke, James Gallagher and Amanda Aalto. £8. 7.30pm.

**Littlebury Hotel, Kings End, Bicester:** Steve Ashall. Free. 9pm. 07941 416722.

**Woodstock Social Club, 44, Oxford Street, Woodstock:** the KingB Band. Seven-piece blues band. 8.30pm. 01993 812094.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Little Brother Eli, Dead Dollar Days, Carl Mills, Jack Lester. Raising funds for Oxfam. 7pm. £6.

**The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford:** Cherokee, One State Drive, Holy Moments. Punk, grunge & rock. 7pm. £6.

**James Street Tavern, 47-48 James Street, Oxford:** The Talc Daemons. Reggae and pop. 9pm. Free.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Stiff Bizkit, Lest We Forget, Jabroni Sandwich, Bloodshot, Violence Is Golden. Metal/hard rock. 6pm. £7.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Limb, Vodun, Indica Blues, Crimson Tusk. Rock. 8pm. £5.

**North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Oxford:** Folk Conexions: Garth Knox, Unni Lovlid, Tord Knudsen. The UK premiere of a collaboration to excite both contemporary and traditional music fans. 7.30pm. £14 (£10).

### SUNDAY

**The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford:** Trembling Bells plus Art Theefe + James Bell & The Half Moon Allstars. Psych-folk band from Glasgow. 7pm. £7.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** No Horses, Tom Ivey, Jinjacooze, Waterfahl and Purple May. 3.30-8.30pm. Free.

**Oxford Wine Café, 38 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford:** Suzanne Mellard Trio (vocals, piano & bass). 6.30-9pm. Free.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Beaty Heart & Who's Alice? London-based artists bring their musical and visual concept to Oxford. 7.30pm. £6adv.

### MONDAY

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Bry & Orla Gartland. Irish pop stars UK tour. 7pm. £10 adv MOTD.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Jack Garratt, Kacy Hill. Indie-electro multi-instrumentalist. 7pm.

### TUESDAY

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Guitar Summit. Jazz at the Bully. 8.30pm. Free.

**The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton Street, Oxford:** Sam Outlaw. US country music singer on European tour. 7.30pm. £12 (adv), £14 (otd). Wednesday 13/04/2016

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Newton Faulkner. Brit-nominated acoustic guitar virtuoso. 7pm. £21.50.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Dear Hero One State Drive, Pipeline. 7.30-10.30pm. £3.

## Theatre

**Chipping Norton Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton:** Apr 5-16, *Stones in his Pockets*. A quiet Irish village community is turned upside down with the arrival of a Hollywood film crew, looking for the 'real' Ireland for their latest schmaltzy blockbuster. 7.45pm. £15 (£13). 01608 642350.

**Cornerstone Arts Centre, 25 Station Road, Didcot:** Apr 7, Comedy Club. Francis Foster, Larry Dean, Zoe Lyons and MC Paul McCaffrey. 8pm. £12.50, £11 (concs). Apr 8, *Backstage in Biscuitland*. Backstage in Biscuit Land. Jess Thom has Tourettes, a condition that makes her say 'biscuit' 16,000 times a day. This two-woman show weaves comedy, puppetry, singing and tics to explore spontaneity, creativity, disability, and things you never knew would make you laugh. 7.30pm. £15, £13.50 (concs). Apr 9, *The Importance of Being Earnest*. 7.30pm. £15, £13.50 (concs). 01235 515144.

**Corn Exchange, Market Place, Wallingford:** Apr 13-16, *TWO* by Jim Cartwright. Sinodun Players. £10. 01491 825000.

**St Matthew's Church, Church Lane, Harwell:** Apr 9, *Godspell*. The Harwell Players. All proceeds to Harwell Village Hall Re-Development Fund. 2.30pm and 7.30pm. £10 adults, £5 under 16's. 01235 832802.

**The Beacon, Portway, Wantage:** Apr 6-9, *Annie the Musical*. Jigsaw Stage Productions. 7.30pm with a Sat matinee 2.30pm. £14 (children £10). 01235 767509.

**Unicorn Theatre, Thames Street, Abingdon:** Apr 6-9, *Terry Pratchett: the Shakespeare Codex*. Studio Theatre Club. 7.30pm. £10 (Wed/Thu), £11 (Fri/Sat). 01865 778105.

**Wykham Theatre, Banbury Academy, Ruskin Road, Banbury:** Apr 7-9, *Into The Woods*. Odyssey Theatrical Productions. 7.30pm (plus 2.30pm on Saturday). £10 full price, £7 concessions. 01295 267342.



# CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport



Ricky Johnson's first-half penalty earned leaders Banbury a 1-0 win over Didcot  
Picture: Steve Wheeler

## Ricky's spot on in victory

### Puritans stay top and book place in play-offs

A PENALTY from Ricky Johnson in first-half stoppage time sealed a 1-0 derby victory for leaders Banbury United at Didcot Town.

Both sides were missing a number of players for the Evo-Stik Southern League Division 1 South & West clash.

Much of the first half saw both sides cancelling each other out, but Banbury began to apply pressure just before half-time.

And in injury time, they went ahead when Zac McEachran was tripped in the area and Johnson sent Leigh Bedwell the wrong

way from the penalty spot. Didcot came close to equalising after the restart when Marvin Martin's effort was tipped over by Jack Harding.

Mark Janes forced a save from Harding, before a long throw from the keeper set Felipe Barcelos free, but the Banbury man saw his shot hit a post.

Didcot pushed forward late on, but Banbury held firm for three points, which ensures they will at least be in the play-offs.

**Banbury Utd:** Harding, Blackstock, Hopkins, Stanbridge (Martin 57), Browne (McCarthy 77), Westbrook, McEachran, Nash, Johnson, Barcelos (Howards 78), Bell. Subs not used: Platt, Rimmer.  
**Attendance:** 264.

#### LATEST TABLE EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE Division 1 South & West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Banbury Utd</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>85</b>
Cinderford Tn	36	26	6	4	73	26	84
Taunton Tn	36	24	8	4	88	28	80
Winchester City	37	24	6	7	91	43	78
Swindon Sup	38	24	5	9	73	41	77
Evesham Utd	38	21	9	8	82	36	72
Shortwood Utd	35	19	5	11	70	50	62
North Leigh	36	19	4	13	70	44	61
Tiverton Tn	36	16	13	7	60	41	61
Didcot Tn	38	17	8	13	78	53	59
Marlow	39	14	7	18	65	72	49
Bishops Cleeve	36	12	12	12	48	54	48
AFC Totton	36	14	5	17	66	63	47
Larkhall Ath	36	13	8	15	55	58	47
Yate Tn	39	12	11	16	48	54	47
Mangots'ld Utd	39	12	10	17	57	62	46
Slimbridge	38	9	10	19	43	54	37
Wimborne Tn	37	9	7	21	58	75	34
Bridgwater Tn	39	8	7	24	39	78	31
Wantage Tn	39	7	5	27	38	91	26
Burnham	38	5	6	27	36	91	21
Bashley	39	0	2	37	12	186	2

## Bulls edge closer to title after victory

BANBURY are within a point of securing the Midlands 2 West (South) title after a high-scoring 43-34 win at Nuneaton Old Edwardians.

The hosts took a 10-0 lead, but Bulls responded and George Grieve scored his first senior try.

However, Nuneaton's big runners were causing problems and a second try extended their lead to 17-5.

Banbury ended the half well, taking a 19-17 advantage into the break as Joe Mills and Jacob Mills crossed.

Sam Stoop converted both.

Joe Mills went over again at the start of the second half and Stoop added the extras, before Chris Phillips and Josh Deegan crossed.

Stoop converted the latter to make it 38-17.

Nuneaton were not finished and three tries later they hauled themselves to within four points of Banbury.

Bulls made it safe in the last play when Grieve crossed.

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**ARIES**  
Mar 21-Apr 19  
Librans have more than just friendship on their mind, so make sure you find out what it is they want from you before you get stuck in an embarrassing situation later this week. Friends could turn into lovers for some of you rams too, as you learn that knowing someone inside out can prove more passionate. Ring now to hear why I don't want you to rule out going back into education.

**TAURUS**  
Apr 20-May 20  
Friends can help you come to terms with a recent loss or a change of some sort. If, that is, you would return their calls and stop distancing yourself from them. Younger faces are going to be telling you silly lies and you would be wise to leave any confrontation until they appear to be back to their sane self. Ring now to hear how unpredictable the moods are and how you can best handle them.

**GEMINI**  
May 21-Jun 20  
This is a week of investment for you Gemini, both with your time and your emotions. You seem to have a much better understanding of what you want and where you are going. Make sure you are not using a new face in business for who they know, or you are going to get yourself a reputation. Ring now to hear why it's worth making sure your passport is up to date for this summer.

**CANCER**  
Jun 21-Jul 22  
You are finding it hard to focus on the things which should be your priority and instead you are choosing to mix with those who are only capable of telling you half truths. Time to wake up and smell the coffee Cancer, before you end up losing friends and money. Good news from someone in your family circle gives reason for a celebration. Ring now so I can tell you everything.

**LEO**  
Jul 23-Aug 22  
You have been busy doing a very good impression of working when in fact you have actually had your head in the clouds and been living in the past. Why don't you do us all a favour and contact the person who is on your mind. Aspects suggest that they're missing you as much as you are missing them. Ring now to hear why you may need to polish up a foreign language this year.

**VIRGO**  
Aug 23-Sep 22  
If you would stop talking and listen to what others are saying this week then you would learn a lot. I know you are trying to put on a brave front, but you are just giving those concerned the impression that you are scatty. A new friend helps you get back on track and leads you into a more constructive lifestyle. Ring now to hear how a change of career could be written in your stars.

**LIBRA**  
Sep 23-Oct 22  
You have big plans for the future and it is time that you started trying to kick them into shape, rather than just talking about them. Old friends try to get in contact for a reason, which is sure to put a very large smile on your face. Beware of borrowing money too soon, especially if you can't pay it back when you say. Ring now to hear why timing is everything over the next seven days.

**SCORPIO**  
Oct 23-Nov 21  
Make sure you pay extra attention to the way that you dress this week. You will be crossing paths with those who have the power to make your professional life all you dream plus more. A face you have been spending much time with is damaging your reputation with the way they act. Distance yourself from them while you can still can. Ring now for a glimpse into the future.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
Nov 22-Dec 21  
Work you do over the coming days is sure to open some really important doors for you. Try not to say negative things about anyone. Keep your cool or you could be accused of starting some trouble which comes to a head on Thursday. You and I know you have better things to put your time and energy into. Ring now to hear how being on time is essential in work.

**CAPRICORN**  
Dec 22-Jan 19  
Rather than trying to get everything your own way, why don't you put your time and effort into listening to what others are trying to say? It's the key to you getting back on track with at least two important faces in your life. A new flirtation has the potential to be something much more, so slow your pace and take in the view. Ring now so I can talk you through recent mixed messages.

**AQUARIUS**  
Jan 20-Feb 18  
Try not to judge those you meet by what you've heard about them, but let them prove to you what they are really all about. You should be in for a pleasant surprise if you do Aquarius! A negative influence in the workplace is not worth confronting, as aspects suggest they will be gone sooner than you think. Ring now to hear how emails and texts are forecast to bring opportunity your way.

**PISCES**  
Feb 19-Mar 20  
Money seems to be causing you stress but, until you sit down and work out how much you do or do not have, it is going to be difficult for you to know how to progress. Younger people look to you for support, especially at the weekend. Make sure you back up all important phone numbers and information. You're going to need them. Call now for insight on Mercury's plans.

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## ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

# Bright future for Banbury

Naomi Herring  
nherring@nqo.com

TRADERS can look forward to a brighter future in Banbury's High Street as the number of empty units in town has fallen.

A partnership between traders, landlords and Cherwell District Council has been working to revive the town centre and recent figures show there are now fewer empty shops than it did this time last year.

It comes after a masterplan was put forward for consultation to look at improving Banbury's centre including the redevelopment of the Oxford Canal area.

MP for Banbury Victoria Prentis, pictured, said: "Shopping locally is

really important to me, and I try to do so wherever possible. Banbury has a lovely High Street with a good variety of shops.

"The combination of high street brands and independent traders, alongside the traditional market, makes Banbury an attractive place to shop.

"It is really encouraging that the number of small businesses in our area is continuing to increase as confidence returns to our economy."

Cherwell District Council lead member for Brighter Future, Kieron Mallon, said that the proposed masterplan was looking to focus on



areas such as revamping the town market, looking at more town centre events, plus creating a mixture of retail, residential and leisure.

He said: "Cherwell District Council is committed to working with traders, landlords and agents to enhance the shopping offer in Banbury town centre.

"The town team co-ordinators, who were appointed by Cherwell

District Council in 2014, have successfully focused on boosting footfall, reducing the number of empty town shops, and exploring opportunities to bring the pop-up

concepts to Banbury.

"The council remains committed to maintaining a vibrant shopping environment in the town and will continue to work with the Old Town Association, the Chamber of Commerce, Castle Quay, the town council, the markets operator and existing businesses to ensure this."

There are events such as Banbury Canal Day, Food Fair, Flower and Produce Show and the Old Town Spring Party on Saturday, May 7. The Banbury masterplan is currently out for public consultation and can be viewed at Castle Quay shopping centre on Saturday, April 2, from 10am until 4pm.

It can also be viewed online at [cherwell.gov.uk/policypublicconsultation](http://cherwell.gov.uk/policypublicconsultation)

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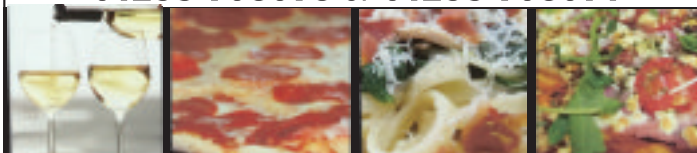
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# Banbury Town Council

## Forthcoming Events:

<b>MAY</b> Saturday 7th 9.30am - 3.30pm Spring Old Town Party	<b>SEPTEMBER</b> Saturday 3rd 9.30am - 3.30pm Old Town Summer Party and Street Organ festival
<b>JUNE</b> Sunday 12th 10.30am - 4.30pm Banbury & District Show	<b>Sunday 11th 10.30am - 12.30pm</b> Battle of Britain parade and Service
<b>Saturday 25th</b> Armed Forces Day	<b>OCTOBER</b> Sunday 2nd 10.30am - 4.30pm Banbury Canal Day
<b>JULY</b> Sunday 3rd 1.00pm - 4.00pm Bark in the Park	<b>NOVEMBER</b> Sunday 13th 10.00am - 1.00pm Remembrance Day parade
<b>AUGUST</b> Sunday 21st 10.30am - 4.30pm Banbury Food Fair	<b>Sunday 27th 10.00am - 6.00pm</b> Christmas Lights Festival
<b>Sunday 21st 10.30am - 4.30pm</b> Banbury Flower & Produce Show Fruit & Vegetables - Cut Flowers & Potted Plants - Floral Art - Cakes & Preserves - Crafts - Children's Variety	<b>DECEMBER</b> Saturday 3rd 6.00pm - 8.00pm A Celebration of Christmas

**Banbury Town Council - The Town Hall, Bridge Street, Banbury OX16 5QB**  
Tel: 01295 250340 Fax: 01295 250820  
e-mail: [info@banbury.gov.uk](mailto:info@banbury.gov.uk) | [www.banbury.gov.uk](http://www.banbury.gov.uk)

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[www.safeguardsecure.co.uk](http://www.safeguardsecure.co.uk)



Call us today to talk to any of our Inspired Trades on 01865 595695  
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## 1 ARTICLES FOR SALE

## 2 PETS

## 3 SERVICES

## 4 BUSINESS

## 5 ENTERTAINMENTS

## 6 HOLIDAYS

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## 11 PROPERTY

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253640

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254704

## 2 PETS

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Grass cutting,  
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## 4 BUSINESS

**FREE business**

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## 5 ENTERTAINMENTS

## Entertainments

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**PLENTY OF FREE PARKING**

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Want to add your business? **IT'S FREE!**

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**find**

## 8 PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003.**

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Propose to Licence these Premises to sell alcoholic beverages. Representations can be made in writing by 27th April 2016 to Head of Corporate Services, The Licensing Authority, Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX15 4AA.

Tel: 01295 221535

Fax: 01295 270028

E-Mail: [elections.licensing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:elections.licensing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

Web: [www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

Full details of the application can be inspected by appointment at the address above. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction of the offence is not exceeding £5,000

**ABTA**

Travel with confidence



9 RECRUITMENT



Newsquest is one of the leading Regional Newspaper Groups in the UK. We're part of Gannett, a premier information company in the US but locally you'll know us as the Oxford Mail, located in Oxford and we currently have a vacancy for

## media support administrator

This role provides a great opportunity to gain knowledge, skill and experience, in a technology driven environment that relies on deadlines.

The principal function of the role involves reviewing and sending advertisements to our studio for creation. It's absolutely pivotal to our workflow and at the heart of our operation, so it's important that your attitude as well as your ability is great.

Ideal applicants would come from a design background, but show a genuine ability to work fast and with accuracy. They would ideally have experience of Adobe InDesign (or similar) software and experience of using web based applications.

Hours are 37.5 per week. We'll train and develop you but you need to work very much on your own initiative, supported by a great team.

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Applications to Lisa Lansdowne, Media Support Manager, at [lisa.lansdowne@oxfordshire.newsquest.co.uk](mailto:lisa.lansdowne@oxfordshire.newsquest.co.uk) or send your CV with a covering letter to Newsquest Oxfordshire, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ



NEWSQUEST  
Media Group

(Graphic design experience is not required, closing date 16/04/16)

10 MOTORS

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## SPECIAL OFFER

6 nights advertising in the Oxford Mail for only

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INCLUDING VAT

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NB: PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY  
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## oxfordmail.co.uk/advertise

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11 PROPERTY

### Property Wanted

- ✓ 100% CASH BUYERS
- ✓ Members of the Property Ombudsman
- ✓ Over 30 Years Experience in Property



### SELLING YOUR PROPERTY?

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Do you have a property that you want sold? Join the 1000's of sellers who have said goodbye to estate agents fees, chains, fall throughs, delays and problems. Easy Move Now will buy for cash in a timescale to suit you from as little as 7 days!

There will be no fees to pay, we even cover the solicitors bill.

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- ✓ NO Hassle

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or on 0113 835 0021

[www.easymovenow.co.uk](http://www.easymovenow.co.uk)

Rated 9.6/10 by our Customers on



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Room in return for flexible 2 w/e a month & some evenings as companion to 68yr old man with learning difficulties.  
**07703690838**

### To advertise your articles for sale or general services

Telephone: 01865 420420  
[reception@nqo.com](mailto:reception@nqo.com)



## Your home goes here.

Local media is used by 40% more property buyers than any other media channel.\*

To find out more go to [www.thewantedads.co.uk/property](http://www.thewantedads.co.uk/property)



\*Source: Confidential Research 2008. 51% of respondents stated that they used local media as a source of information when looking to buy/sell. Local media: local newspapers, websites and supplements.



# BanburyCake PROPERTY

[banburycake.co.uk/homes](http://banburycake.co.uk/homes)



One of the buy-to-let properties in Samantha Linn's own property portfolio; right, Samantha Linn; above, students at Queensway School in Banbury, who took part in the art competition

## Opening of estate agent offices will be just magic

MAGIC will be in the air on Saturday, as an estate agent marks the opening of its first Banbury branch.

Northwood's has booked illusionist, Magic Circle member and TV performer Andrew Van Buren to entertain residents at its new shop in the High Street.

The magician is best known for magical illusions, plate spinning, unicycle juggling and escaping from straitjackets on television shows such as *Ant & Dec's Saturday Night*

**Gill Oliver**  
[gill.oliver@nqo.com](mailto:gill.oliver@nqo.com)

*Takeaway and Andrew Van Buren's World of Variety.*

He will be performing at Northwood's from 11am until 3pm.

Also on offer are competitions and free coffee for anyone who visits Northwood's office.

The estate agent is also sponsoring a school artwork competition.

It encourages students at the town's

Queensway School to create art inspired by local landmarks or places they enjoyed visiting.

Entries are on display in Northwood's shop window during the Easter holidays.

Northwood Banbury director Samantha Linn has more than 10 years' experience in the property sector as a landlord.

She has bought, renovated and rented properties around the UK. She anticipates the agency's

'guaranteed rent' service will prove popular.

It guarantees monthly rental income for landlords, even if their property is empty.

Ms Linn said: "Once we sign up a landlord, we can put them on this scheme for one or two years and if the property is empty, we still pay them rent."

The firm is also offering an introductory rate on residential sales of 0 per cent commission for three

months after it opens.

Northwood has 85 branches around the UK and is run as a franchise operation.

Ms Linn added: "I have had my own property portfolio so I have the experience of the people that will be coming to use my services."

"That means I can see things from the landlord's perspective."

■ For more information, call 01295 231649 or email [banbury@northwooduk.com](mailto:banbury@northwooduk.com)

Contact property writer Gill Oliver with your stories on 01865 425475 or email [propertyedit@nqo.com](mailto:propertyedit@nqo.com)

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SALES & LETTINGS

**pontings**  
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We are fast becoming one of Banbury's leading rental agents... why?

At Pontings we pride ourselves on finding the right properties – spending time with prospective tenants to get to know them and finding the right home for them, somewhere that they will be happy to stay long term and treat as their own home.

We offer an excellent, high quality service, with attention to detail and a friendly attitude – we will credit check and thoroughly reference potential tenants – all the things that should be done, plus a few more behind the scenes.....

We want to be approachable to landlords and tenants at all times and look after our clients, properties and all of the administration and legislation that goes along with renting a property.

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We have already helped many local investors to find ideal rental property, some experienced investors, some first time...

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# MARTIN&CO

## SALES

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New Instruction

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**Beech House, Banbury**

Martin & Co Banbury are delighted to offer to the market this very well presented two double bedroom apartment situated in a sought after location within Banbury. Chain Free and very investable. Call today to book your viewing 01295 701773

**Asking Price Of £180,000**

NEW INSTRUCTION

MOTIVATED VENDOR



**Ashlade, Middleton Cheney**

Martin & Co Banbury are delighted to offer to the market this well presented three bedroom detached property situated in a very sought after cul-de-sac location within the village of Middleton Cheney. Outside boasts a wrap around plot with newly laid patio area with lawn to the rear, off-road parking for up to five vehicles and a single garage. Viewing is highly recommended.

**Asking Price Of 310,000**

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**Asking Price Of £140,000**

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**Rosemary Drive**

A two bedroom apartment available in the popular area of Hanwell Fields. Allocated parking. Easy access to town centre; train station and shops.

**Asking Price Of £175,000**

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INVESTMENT




**Rosemary Drive**

Martin & Co are delighted to offer to the market this Two double bedroom Ground floor apartment situated in the very sought after Hanwell Fields development. Viewing is highly recommended. Cal 01295 701773

**Asking Price Of £170,000**

SOLD SUBJECT TO CONTRACT

SIMILAR REQUIRED



**Padbury Drive**

Martin & Co are pleased to offer this spacious two bedroom apartment comprising: one en-suite, living / dining room, kitchen and bathroom with an allocated parking space to the rear. The property is situated within easy walking distance to the town centre and train station. The property would be an ideal purchase for a first time buyer or investor.EPC - D

**Asking Price Of £160,000**

SOLD SUBJECT TO CONTRACT

SIMILAR REQUIRED




**Cranleigh Close**

Martin & Co Banbury are delighted to offer to the market this very well presented spacious two bedroom detached bungalow situated in a sought after location within Banbury. The living accommodation comprises; Lounge, Kitchen / Diner, Sun room, Master bedroom benefitting from fitted wardrobes and television point, further double bedroom / dining room and family bathroom with separate toilet. Outside boasts a private and enclosed low maintenance rear garden with access to a single garage and off road parking for three vehicles. Viewing is highly recommended to appreciate this truly excellent property.

**Asking Price Of 290,000**

Investors take note

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- **Quality Buyer and Tenants**
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- **Most high-tech window display**

“Due to our recent success within the property market of Banbury and surrounding areas, we have been able to open our brand new office proudly situated in a fantastically prominent position within the town centre.

With hi-tech window displays and new innovative media screens we here at Martin & Co can offer unrivalled exposure to a footfall of circa 180,000 visitors! Since Moving to Castle Quay shopping Centre we have noticed a dramatic increase in good, quality purchasers and tenants enabling us to keep up the results in which our vendors and landlords are used to. Boasting a management team with over 74 years combined service within the property industry Martin & Co Banbury are the perfect agency to use when it comes to selling of letting your property.

To give your home the exposure it deserves, advertise your property in Banbury's biggest and brightest window display, doing so will result in; more viewings, a better price for your property, quality purchasers and tenants and shortened void periods. So whether you are thinking of either selling or letting your property, think smart, think bright, and call Martin & Co Banbury today on 01295 701773.”





# MARTIN&CO

## LETTINGS

Lettings • Sales • Investment



### Friars Hill

Martin and Co Banbury are pleased to introduce this studio apartment, in a beautiful rural location within close proximity to both Banbury and Warwickshire. The apartment is available unfurnished with washing machine and fridge/freezer included. The property also benefits from plentiful parking and large communal garden. Available mid April.

**£475**



### Padbury Drive

Martin and Co are pleased to present, this spacious two bedroom flat with close proximity to both Banbury town centre and train station. The spacious living accommodation comprises; Two double bedrooms, Master with on-suite, Kitchen, Lounge. This property benefits from allocated parking, and available unfurnished. EPC - D

**£775pcm**



### Middleton Road

Martin & Co are pleased to present a selection of new two bedroom luxury apartments situated within walking distance to the train station and town centre. The property benefits from brand new appliances and all new fixtures and fittings. Available unfurnished in February with off road parking. Don't miss out on the chance to rent in a brand new development.

**£795**



### Peoples Place

A spacious two bedroom unfurnished apartment with plenty of storage available immediately within walking distance to the town centre and train station. Book your viewing now.

**£750**



### Cherwell Court

Martin and Co are delighted to offer to the market this spacious 2 bedroom apartment. Accommodation comprises; open plan lounge/dinner, kitchen, two double bedrooms, master bedroom with en suite shower room. This location benefits from being walking distance from the town center, and good links to the train station.

**£175**



### The Moors Drive

This is a new to the market three bedroom spacious bungalow with driveway parking and large garden situated in the village of Middleton Cheney. Available unfurnished. Book your viewing now.

**895pcm**



### Middleton Road

Martin and Co Banbury are delighted to offer to the market, this two bedroom apartment, within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The property comprises; two double bedrooms, kitchen/lounge, bathroom with shower over bath. EPC - B

**£775pcm**



### Dashwood Rise

Martin and Co Banbury, are pleased to present, this charming two bedroom bungalow in the sort after village of Duns Tew. The property comprises; two double bedrooms, kitchen, lounge, bathroom, and enclosed rear garden. Viewing comes highly recommended. Available immediately. EPC - D

**££795pcm**



### Broughton Road

Martin & Co are pleased to present this two bedroom refurbished end of terrace property with enclosed rear garden. Located close proximity to the town centre, and walking distance to the train station. The property comprises; kitchen; living room; dining room; two bedrooms and bathroom. This property is available unfurnished. EPC - E

**£875pcm**



### Middleton Road

Martin & Co are pleased to offer this modern two bedroom apartment within walking distance to the town and the train station. The property comprises; fully fitted kitchen and open plan living room. There are two bedrooms and a bathroom with bath and shower. There is also parking at the rear of the property.

**£750pcm**



### Causeway

Martin & Co are delighted to offer this spacious two double bedroom apartment. The property benefits from a large open plan kitchen and living area. The master bedroom has an ensuite bathroom and there is also a separate bathroom. There is allocated parking to the rear of the property secured by electric gates.

**£795**



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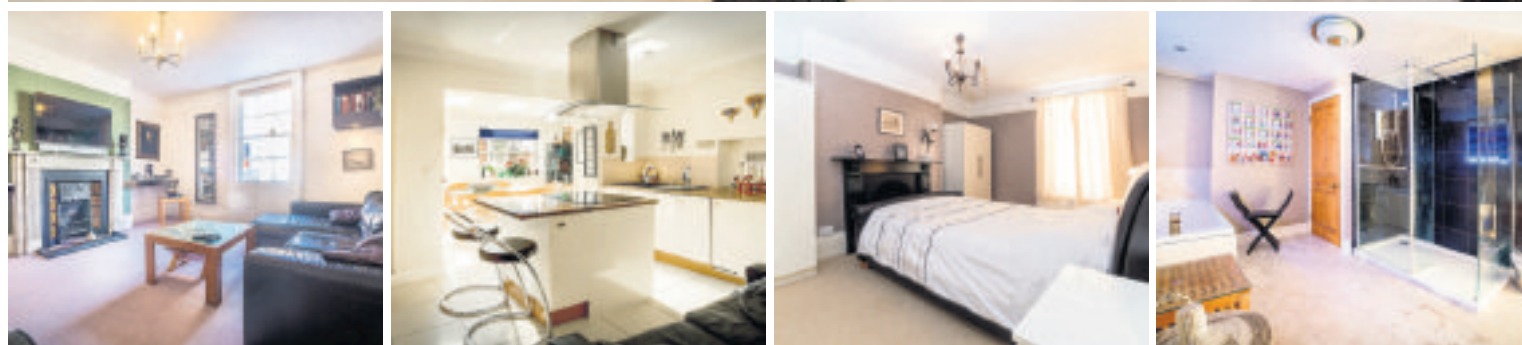
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## In brief

■ **FAMILY-RUN** Mitsubishi dealership Firs Garage in Hook Norton is celebrating after being named Dealer of the Year at the car brand's annual conference for the third year in a row. The award adds to its previous successes as a top-performing showroom, as it took home the Dealer of the Year trophy in 2015, 2014 and 2010, and was the runner-up in 2011. And it's not just the car manufacturer that recognises its winning formula, either – Firs Garage also consistently receives the maximum five-star satisfaction rating from customers via Mitsubishi surveys.

■ **BRITISH** sports car maker Aston Martin heralded the beginning of a new era by unveiling its stunning new DB11 production model at this year's Geneva Motor Show. The DB11 is the first of a new generation of Aston Martins that benefit from radical overhauls in key areas such as design, structure and powertrain. First deliveries are planned in winter 2016, with prices expected to start at £154,900.

# CakeMotoring

banburycake.co.uk/cars

## Sleek CX-3 offers a winning mixture

### AUTO FACTS

Model: Mazda CX-3 SKYACTIV-G 120PS SE-L  
Price: £18,995  
Insurance group: 15  
Fuel consumption (Combined): 47.9mpg  
Top speed: 119mph  
Length: 427.5cm/168.3in  
Width: 176.5cm/69.5in  
Luggage capacity: 12.3 cu ft  
Fuel tank capacity: 10.5 gallons/48 litres  
CO2 emissions: 137g/km  
Warranty: Three years/62,137 miles (100,000km)

David Duffy  
david.duffy@nqo.com

IF you like a stylish, good-looking car with loads of equipment you will love the Mazda CX-3. If you love a bargain you might be less impressed.

Styled like the larger CX-5, its well-finished interior feels like the Mazda2, with quality materials and a classy dashboard.

All models comes with a seven-inch touchscreen and a rotary controller, which keeps the number of buttons to a minimum.

There is plenty of interior space and the driver's seat is height adjustable.

Boot space is on the pace for its sector, with the added advantage of a false floor, which both aids loading items and also hides items out of sight.

Mazda is offering a choice of three engines – a 105 horsepower 1.5-litre diesel and a 2.0-litre petrol with either 120 horsepower or 150 horsepower outputs.

On twisting minor roads the front-wheel-drive CX-3 really comes to life, with grippy, sharp handling and a comfortable ride. There is also a four-wheel-drive model.

Smart brake support uses radar and a camera to monitor the



road and apply the brakes if a dangerous situation is detected.

The system also delivers extra braking power if the driver applies the brakes.

Blind spot monitoring uses radar to keep an eye on the road to the sides and rear, warning of vehicles approaching in adjacent lanes with a flashing indicator in the side mirror and a buzzer sound if you signal a lane change.

A lane departure warning system examines the lane markings using a camera and warns the driver of unintentional lane changes.

High beam control uses a camera to monitor oncoming

headlights and the tail lights of preceding vehicles, switching automatically between high and low beams.

The sound system is a seven-speaker Bose unit, and allows Bluetooth connection to a smartphone. The satellite navigation system includes three years of updates and support for 19 audio and 26 text languages.

Rear parking sensors aid parking.

If style is paramount then the CX-3 is a winner.

And to prove the point it was selected as a top three contender for the 2016 World Car Design of the Year, alongside the Jaguar XE and the Mazda MX-5.

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## Classic cars

### Don't buy vehicle just for investment

INTEREST in classic cars has for a long time been the preserve of knowledgeable, keen enthusiasts who have often been prepared to spend more money than the car is worth to keep it on the road or track.

When the credit crunch snapped, many people chose to take money out of the bank and put it into a classic car, which fuelled a second classic car boom.

The previous classic car price boom of the late 1980s saw cars being traded from one owner to the next, seemingly with no alteration other than to add an extra zero to the price tag.

Inevitably, this all came crashing down when the recession hit and

the only upside was the frenzy helped save cars that might otherwise have been consigned to the scrapyard.

With the current surge in interest for classics there has been concern among many industry insiders that the same boom and bust pattern would emerge. However, low interest rates in the UK and a slack worldwide economy have encouraged those with spare cash to buy a classic they can use, instead of a savings account they can only stare at in dismay.

Back down at the more affordable end of the market, there is a lot of discussion about what will be the next car to swell in price. Many are seeking the next

big thing and they are happy to talk up the value of cars that were, in their day, pretty humdrum machines.

If we could all spot the cars that are going to be very popular and rise in value, we'd all be getting rich, but the market is less predictable nowadays. What was once cool can quickly become yesterday's news.

Instead of trying to view classic cars as a way of fattening your wallet, it is far better to choose the make and model you really want to own. Then, if prices do drop or you have to spend more than you expected maintaining the car, you will be happy to oblige in return for enjoying your time driving it.

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**Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Vauxhall Corsa range: Urban: 38.2 (7.4) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 58.9 (4.8) - 94.2 (3.0), Combined: 48.7 (5.8) - 88.3 (3.2). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 133 - 85g/km.\***

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